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Newsletter

Number 35 8 December 2017



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

... to those who supported this week's Team Athletics event – and our junior school teachers for organising the day.

... to those who supported today's School Council discos.

... to those who attended this week's Kapa Haka performance.

... to Ruth and Clinton Telfer who did another amazing job judging home gardens this year, and Edith McCaw for judging the diaries.

People of the week

... Our Kapa Haka group for all your hard work this year and for your amazing performance this week.

... Whaea Charlene

... Jynaia Hewson ... recently awarded the Open Ballet Award through the Whangarei Academy of Dance. A huge honour Jynaia. Well done!

... Jack Laird for coming 2nd in the North Harbour Mini Xmas champs & 1st in the father and son race

Term Calendar ... More to follow as dates come to hand!

11 December	School prize giving
12 December	End of Year Reports issued
13 December	Year 7 and 8 Fun Day
14 December	Final day of the 2017 school year (mid-day finish)

For those interested ... term dates for 2018

Term 1 ...	31 January to 13 April
Term 2 ...	30 April to 6 July
Term 3 ...	23 July to 28 September
Term 4 ...	15 October to (approximately) 14 December

2017 Prize Giving

Monday 11 December

The evening will start at 6:30pm and will conclude approx 8.00pm with a supper.

Grandparents are welcome.

**Families are asked to bring two plates please
for a shared supper**

– to be placed on tables which will be set up outside the staffroom.

Attendance on this night is optional for 5 year olds (all other children are asked to be present please).

Please refer to recent newsletters (stored on our website) for information on...

.... Cohort entry

... Pool keys for 2018

... After School Swimming Lessons

Home Garden Picture Board

If you get time please drop by the office and view our 2017 Home Garden Picture Board. You will be blown away by the amazing gardens. Really worth a look. Well done to those involved.

Year 5 and 6 Camp 2018 Lonsdale Park - 6-9 March

... Permission forms went home last week. If you have not done so please return any outstanding forms on Monday. Any questions in the run up to Mr Schuster please.

Year 8 Day - Action World (Paihia) - 13 Dec

Leaving school 9:00am, returning by 3:00pm. Thank you to those offering supervision and transport on the day. Cost \$15 if EOTC fee has not been paid (please check with the school office if not sure). If EOTC fee has been paid then all cost will be covered by this fee. **Please ensure any outstanding consents have been returned by this coming Monday.** Questions to Mrs Donaldson please.

Year 7 Day - Adrenalin Adventure Park (Hukerenui) - 13 Dec

Leaving school 9:00am, returning by 3:00pm. Thank you to those offering supervision and transport on the day. Cost \$20 if EOTC fee has not been paid (please check with the school office if not sure). The cost is \$5 if the EOTC fee has been paid. **Please ensure any outstanding consents have been returned by this coming Monday.** Questions to Mrs Donaldson please.

Lost Property

Please drop by to check the lost property bin next week. Items unclaimed by term's end will be donated to charities.

NO Sausage Sizzle

As advised earlier this week, there will be no Sausage Sizzle next Wednesday - 13th December.

2018 School Stationery

As for 2017, stationery will need to be ordered online via the OfficeMax website - www.myschool.co.nz The class stationery lists will be uploaded by the time school closes & confirmation of your child's 2018 classroom will be confirmed by then too. On the Officemax website search for Matarau School and then your child's class. Orders can be placed across the holidays for delivery before school starts. *A brochure is included with today's newsletter explaining the process. A slip of paper will be sent home on Wednesday confirming the link & your child's class to order.* If you do not have internet access please contact Helen for a printed list.



Digital Devices 2018 - year 4 and up

Three years ago we introduced an option for parents of paying a full school contribution (which we acknowledge is voluntary), or reduced contribution, if they chose to purchase an ipad or equivalent for their child. Our goals were to reduce demand on our existing stock of devices, and to allow parents to make the choice on whether or not they wanted their child to have their own (take home) device. This system seems to have worked well, and we would like to put the same option to parents next year. Those who purchased their own devices last year will continue to be levied the lower rate for as long as their child brings their own device to school (remember this does not preclude them, also, using school devices). We also advised that we would commit to providing the most cost effective route for parents who opt for purchasing. Accordingly ... we have arranged special deals with Noel Leeming and Barrell's for our families ... we are inviting parents (for children years 4 to 8), to opt for laptops or chromebooks. In order to save you money longer term we suggest that, if your child is heading for KHS, you might like to consider chromebooks, if WGHS or WBHS then a device of your choice. To keep your costs as low as possible, whatever your choice, we will make it work at our end.

If your child already has an ipad that you would like them to bring to school, you are more than welcome to do so. We are however now preferring laptops and chromebooks, as these fill our device needs better than an ipad.

We will continue to ensure that time on devices is not overdone, there will always be plenty of time for learning and interacting in a variety of ways.

NB parents should feel under no pressure to purchase devices for their children ... this is your call ... we will do our best to provide as many shared (non take home devices) as we can.

Change of name for Miss Bevin

Some of you may know that Miss Bevin (now Mrs Waiomio) got married earlier this year. So, when we refer to Mrs Waiomio in future, you will know who we mean.

Class Lists

... will be on display in the hall noticeboard 13 December. The staff have put a huge amount of time into getting these as close to right as they can. I know of no other school that invites parents to contribute their thoughts prior to placement, and can assure you that all of these thoughts are considered very seriously. Sometimes a request by one parent can be directly countered by the request of another parent, and sometimes we do not feel a request is in the interest of the child or their peers. Lists go through multiple stages before they are finalised.

Prior experience has indicated to us the importance of friendships, every effort is made to ensure that every child is placed with at least one of their close friends. **Where all requests cannot, for whatever reason, be met, we aim to meet at least one request where we can.** Having said all of this, there must be give and take, reflection (and time - even a day or two) can bring perspective, and change can be a very positive thing. All rooms will be staffed by outstanding teachers, delivering outstanding programmes, surrounded by outstanding kids. **Changes to lists after their publication are unlikely to be made.**

Staffing for 2018

The Board is pleased to announce 2018 staffing as follows ..

Teaching staff	Support staff
Room 1a Mrs Walker ... likely start term 2 Year 1/0	Teacher Aides
Room 1 Mrs Marvin Year 1	Mrs Neumann
Room 2 Mrs Baker Year 1/2	Mrs Crawford
Room 3 Mrs Burgin Year 2	Mrs Wynyard
Room 4 Mrs Waiomio Year 3	Mrs Pol
Room 5 Mrs Milicich Year 3	Ms Hannam
Room 6 NOT ALLOCATED	Mrs Ryan
Room 7 Miss Gentil Year 4	Mrs Hamilton
Room 8 Miss Blundell Year 4 & 5	Mrs Perris
Room 9 Mrs Jongkind Year 5	Information Technology
Room 10 Mr Johnson Year 5 & 6	Mrs Sullivan
Room 11 Mr Schuster / Mrs Gunson Year 6	Administration
Room 12 Mrs Donaldson Year 7 & 8	Mrs Dorahy
Room 13 Mr Crump Year 7 & 8	Mrs Sinclair
Room 14 Mrs Lunn Year 7 & 8	Caretaker / Grounds
Information Technologies - student support senior school - Mr Delemare	Mr Palmer
Te Reo - Miss Morunga	
Beginning Teacher Support - Mrs Gunson	
ESOL - Mrs Slykerman / Mrs Pol	
Learning Support / Pastoral Support - Mrs Williams	
Reading Recovery / Junior diagnostics - Mrs Robertson	
Deputy Principal - Mrs Robertson / Assistant Principal - Mr Schuster	
Senior teacher (senior school) - Mrs Donaldson	

Te Reo and its place in schools

You may be aware of a debate this week around the place of Te Reo in schools. Often these debates centre on treaty obligations and entitlements, the value of language learning in brain development, establishment of a bicultural NZ etc. etc. etc. More often than not these issues, which may or may not have degrees of merit, skirt the most compelling of all reasons for Te Reo's place in our schools. Identity is important. Culture is a critical part of identity. Language is a window on culture, and therefore on identity. When we include elements of Te Reo in our schools, we show people that they matter to us, that who they are, what they believe, what they value, is important. We also demonstrate humility. We show people that we are willing to

learn from them, we acknowledge that ours is not the only way of seeing the world, we open possibilities for celebrating diversity, and in this diversity we find unity. What constitutes balance in these (as in all matters) is another matter for another time. For now we (Matarau School) are committed to growing our school in ways which acknowledge that people matter, that what they bring to the table matters, that we have much to learn from each other, and that we believe the effort is worth it.

Early finish

Please note that school finishes at midday (12:00) on the final day of school - Thursday 14 December. All buses will run approximately 3 hours early (including the bus into Kamo) ... please allow some variation on drop off / pick up time due to unpredictable loadings. Parents who pick their children up from school are asked to do so at midday please.

And your job at prizegiving ...

... to help us create a special moment for every child who goes up on the stage. We do not make decisions lightly on who is called up.

Special Thanks to

Our sponsors for their generous contributions to our School
Staff for efforts, beyond the call of duty
The Board for its unswerving dedication to duty
Children for striving to attain your goals
(and for supporting others towards the same end)
To the many parents etc who have given their time to help in
classrooms, camp, sports days, transport
To those who have given us the benefit of the doubt
when things didn't quite turn out right.

We have plenty of exciting things planned for next year including a (continued) special focus on personalised learning, further initiatives in the writing area, room refurbishments, relatively low class numbers in all rooms, new learning support initiatives, and further expansion of the Cambridge and Senior Options Programmes.

We look forward to sharing much more about these with you in the New Year.

And finally

Prizegiving always reminds us that real success seldom happens by accident. It is usually the result of diligent effort. Full credit, in advance, to every child who receives an award at prizegiving, and to all of those children who worked hard to grow their learning, achieve their goals, overcome their fears and enrich the lives of others. But just as important, behind every successful child is a back stage team of parents and teachers who get stuck in and do their best, in a job that is often more an art than a science. You can take credit too.

Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas. Best wishes to those who end their association with us this year - we hope you will reflect positively on your period of involvement with our school.

Regards ... *nga mihi*

Kevin Trewhella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



Community Notices

House wanted to Rent - Family looking for 3+ bdrm home in Matarau area. Ideally with 2 living areas / granny flat type set up. Long term. Trish 021 843 100 or trish_reumah@hotmail.com

Holiday Surf Programmes - at Tutukaka & Taupo Bay the summer holidays. Our programmes are designed to give children/young adults the confidence to be active and have fun at the beach through the enjoyment of learning how to surf. This is free for children/young adults aged between 11-17 years through BreakAway funding. Monday-Friday - 18-22 Dec; 1-5 Jan; 8-12 Jan; 15-19 Jan. Limited spaces - Please email to book surf@oneillsurfacademy.co.nz www.oneillsurfacademy.co.nz

Matarau Tennis Club AGM - Tuesday 19 December, Matarau School Staffroom, 7pm. Please call Robyn on 021 541 349 or 433 5501 for more details or email on russrob763@gmail.com.

Kiwi North School Holiday Activities - 10am to 12.00pm, 8-26 January 2018

Week 1: 8-12 Jan Monday: Bernina Fabric Craft, Tuesday: Explore Bream Head—Toyota Kiwi Guardians; Wednesday: Building Insect Hotels, Thursday—Explore Botanica—Kiwi Conservation Club; Friday: Lesson in the 1898 Riponui Pah School House; Week 2: 15-19 Jan Monday: Poi, kakahu, weaving; Tuesday: Explore Dragonfly Springs; Wed: Design a predator trap; Thursday: Tamaterau with Leopardseals.org; Friday: Archaeology; Week 3, 22nd-26th Jan Monday: Clay Critters; Tuesday: Explore Hatea River Archaeology with Heritage NZ; Wednesday: Geology; Thursday: Explore McLeods Bay - Whale Rescue Training; Friday: Pioneer NZ in the Homestead. - reception@kiwinorth.co.nz or phone 438 9630 extn 0

FREE School Holiday Programme

- PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

One week holiday programme (9am to 1pm) - Choose a week... Activities include sports, arts and crafts and hip hop dance and trips to Whangarei Aquatic Centre, bootcamp, gymnastics and more! Week 1: December 18–22; Week 2: January 8–12; Week 3: January 15-19; Week 4: January 22–26; Week 5: January 30– Feb 2; Where: Whangarei Intermediate School Who: Children aged 8-14yrs

To register call 459 6909 and leave your details on the answer phone; name, phone number and week you wish your child/ren to attend or email northhiphopdance@gmail.com ... we will get back to you to confirm your registration ... limited spaces.

Kidzones Holiday Programme Kidzones will be opening 8 January to the 26 January 2018.

Kamo Kidzone will be open 18th to 22nd December. All children are welcome to use this programme.

Check out what the Kidzones team have planned for the summer on www.kidzones.co.nz

Contact Sandra North on 021 249 3308 or sandra@kidzones.co.nz

Swimsmart is offering intensive lessons from the 2nd - 12th January. Cost is \$75 per week. Please email Gayle at gayle.swimsmart@gmail.com or phone 459 5323 to book or for more information.

School's Out – SUP Bro Paddle Boarding Holiday programme – 10years & up. 8.30am to 3pm daily during the school holidays from 18th Dec to 2nd February - \$45 per day (discount for full week). Contact supbrotours@gmail.com or 022 644 3613 for full information.

Canine Country Club Ruatangata. Opening 22 January. Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm. \$16 a day for regulars. \$18 a day for casuals. Taking bookings now. Limited places (low numbers).

Contact Craig 021 165 9360 or ccc.ruatangata@gmail.com

Property wanted to rent or buy in Matarau or surrounding areas. Minimum 2 bdrms needed for rental property, or lifestyle block with or without buildings to buy. Phone Anna on 433 5523 or 027 2476637.

Matarau After School Care

Do you, or someone you know have a few spare hours in the afternoons? Do you like crafts, have a creative flair, like sports or just hanging out with cool kids?

Matarau After School Care is looking for fun and friendly supervisors to help out, 3-5.30pm week days. Get in touch with Kim 021 066 3806 or email kim_n_simon@hotmail.com

REMINDER - School Buses & the Speed Limit

The **speed limit** for **passing** a stationary school bus that is dropping off or picking up children is 20kph in either direction.

